Programme Specification

Programme Title and Name of Award	MA Social Work		
Academic Level	7	**Total Credits**	180
Professional Body Accreditation / Qualification	Successful completion of the MA Social Work or the PgD in Social Work confers eligibility to apply for registration as a Social Worker with Social Work England. All other exit awards do not confer eligibility to apply for registration.		
Date of Professional Body Accreditation	1st August 2019: 2022 update	**Accreditation Period**	On-going
UCAS Code	L500		
HECoS Code	100503		
Criteria for Admission to the Programme	The University's standard criteria for admissions apply. Please refer to the Applicant Information pages of the University website for more information. For APL, please refer to the University website. Detailed criteria for admission to this programme can be found on the programme webpage: https://www.cumbria.ac.uk/study/courses/postgraduate/social-work/ The following additional requirements apply for entry to this programme: Applicants must have a GCSE (grade C/grade 4 or above) for English or equivalent prior to commencement of the programme. In line with all regulated social work programmes applicants are selected on the basis of interview and a written assessment. We select prospective students on the basis of meeting the BASW Professional Capabilities Framework level for 'point of entry to training'. **Fitness to practice and health requirements** All offers of a place are subject to satisfactory health screening. Further information will be provided following the offer of a place. The programme is further subject to professional regulations as outlined by Social Work England with regards to health and character status of applicants. Please ask us for advice and/or support as early as possible in the application process if you have		

	any questions about this requirement. In some instances, an applicant may be invited to attend a professional practice panel to discuss any recommended reasonable adjustments, and whether or not core professional competencies are achievable. **Disclosure and Barring Service check** If you are offered a place we require you to comply with an Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) background clearance check. Read the DBS policy. **Interviews for Applicants** The MA Social Work programme is a professional course and as such all applicants must successfully pass an interview process. Students are assessed against The British Association of Social Workers (BASW) Professional Capabilities Framework (PCF) for Entry on to pre-registration programmes. Applicants will also be asked to undertake a written assessment. Both the interview and the written assessment will be scored. Applicants are notified of an offer through the admissions team within one week of the interview.
Teaching Institution	University of Cumbria
Owning Institute	Institute of Health
Programme delivered in conjunction with	Placement providers e.g. Local Authorities, Schools, NHS, Voluntary, and Independent Sector.
Principal Mode of Delivery	Blended Learning
Pattern of Delivery	**Full time** – with extended semesters to accommodate placements
Delivery Site(s)	University of Cumbria Fusehill Street
Programme Length	Standard 2 years Maximum registration 5 years
Target and Exit Awards	**Target awards** The MA Social Work and PGDip Social Work both meet the Social Work England Professional Standards and enable you to apply for registration. **Exit awards** If you do not meet the criteria for those target awards then you may be awarded one of the following, which **do not** enable registration with Social Work England. • MA Social Care Studies - **no** eligibility to apply for registration with Social Work England • PGDip Social Care Studies - **no** eligibility to apply for

	registration with Social Work England
	• PGCert in Social Care Studies - **no** eligibility to apply for registration with Social Work England
	In order to attain a professionally recognised award, i.e. the MA or PgDip so as to be eligible to apply to the Social Work England for registration as a Social Worker, students must successfully pass both of the Qualifying Practice Units (placements).
Period of Approval	August 2022

Cumbria Graduate Attributes

Throughout your studies, you will be provided with the skills and knowledge relevant to the global workplace. All successful graduates of the University of Cumbria will be:

- Enquiring and open to change
- Self-reliant, adaptable and flexible
- Confident in your discipline as it develops and changes over time
- Capable of working across disciplines and working well with others
- Confident in your digital capabilities
- Able to manage your own professional and personal development
- A global citizen, socially responsible and aware of the potential contribution of your work to the cultural and economic wellbeing of the community and its impact on the environment
- A leader of people and of places
- Ambitious and proud

Programme Features

Vision

Our vision for social work is to enable students to become successful, excellent career-long social workers. Our hyperconnected world faces so many challenges, from individual and community issues through to the global ecological crisis and its human consequences. Structural inequality and disadvantage are dynamics that Social Work has to address on a daily basis. As social workers we have to translate our aspirations for a fairer world into meaningful care and support in ways that are personal, assertive and compassionate.

At the University of Cumbria we guide and support students through a development journey where learning is a joy and local issues are kept in a constant context of human rights, dignity and social justice. We whole heartedly believe in anti-discrimination and anti-racism (Dominelli, 2019; Tedam, 2021). Our social work students can express their creativity and individuality in professional, engaged and purposive work alongside people whether at individual, family, community, national or international levels.

We hold to the highest standards of ethical and research informed practice. We hold to a strong values base which underpins all of our knowledge and skills. Our graduating social workers understand our shared role in creating positive change, embracing the digital future and co-creating a sustainable

world. Our social workers understand transformation and collaborative practice, relishing their role and responsibilities as they contribute to positive social and cultural change.

The University of Cumbria is committed to equality and the depth of freedom which is achieved through genuine diversity. Our vision is that every graduating social worker will have an enduring love for social work and the opportunities that it brings.

Understanding your journey

We understand that students need to build on the knowledge and skills of previous studies. We support students in the academic step up to level 7 study as well as the step into a professional, vocational development programme. Professionalism involves understanding that boundaries and expectations of high quality practice are the route to enabling personal expression and following professional interests. Professional identity is vital and our passion for social work will give the foundation for future success.

Design

The MA Social Work programme is designed to front load professional development work immediately from when you join in September. The initial six months will ground you in understanding the role, the theories and models which inform our practice as we lead into the first placement, beginning in March. We deliver the initial six months through a combination of lectures and interactive workshops. Practicing new skills is essential and the initial phase of your training will give you an absolute grounding in the Professional Capabilities Framework (PCF) which is the basis of all regulated social work qualifying programmes. The majority of the 30 skills days will be delivered during the autumn and early Spring of your first year, i.e. ahead of first placement.

We will always encourage curiosity and challenge. Social work relies on combining those approaches with values and a mature, active acceptance of the duties and responsibilities which come with being a registered social worker.

After successfully completely year 1, at the end of first placement, then the second year is designed to consolidate that progress and extend your awareness into the world of professional research.

Utilising the University's expert knowledge of learning and assessment strategies, you will be supported by a programme team with a wide range of professional expertise. Our lecturing team have an absolute passion for social work. We have an unwavering, non-negotiable commitment to the standards of our profession. We believe that everyone of our students is capable of excelling in their chosen career and we believe that there is no better career than being a social worker. A long, happy and healthy career in social work is possible when people receive the right support and development. We are confident that this MA Social Work programme will provide every opportunity to develop into the exceptional social workers that our communities deserve.

We are a team with total respect for people with lived experience of social work. We have the professionalism to approach our work with quiet, confident humility combined with the skills and strengths needed to be assertive and challenging where that supports anti-oppressive, anti-racist practice in the pursuit of social justice. Sharing this experience, for example, through skills development workshop days, is a central part of your development as aspiring social workers. Social work is an applied profession and skills development is essential to be bring out profession alive in the real world.

Location

The University of Cumbria is ideally located in the North West of England, enabling practice opportunities in Scotland and Northern Ireland as well as England. This is reflected in the curriculum which takes account of the variation in Social Work law throughout the UK and in the wide choice of placement locations. The Fusehill campus in Carlisle is a quiet and inspiring location with study environments which are accessible. We are proud of our friendly and welcoming atmosphere.

Building on many years of successful Social Work education at the University of Cumbria the programme is responsive to local and national employer expectations. Extensive consultation with local

employers has enabled us to develop a programme which equips graduates with both the academic and technical skills required for producing high quality written work, as well as the professional skills needed to manage risk and promote autonomy for everyone with lived experience of social work, their carers and significant others.

Our exciting and innovative approach to teaching aims to help you to synthesise theory and practice. Experiential learning is a core component of the curriculum and active workshops develop your skills and confidence. There will be a minimum of 30 days of skills development work including real life simulations take place, both on location such as in Court, and also on campus settings such as a simulated home environment and a mock hospital ward.

Operating against a backdrop of constantly changing socio-economic challenges and an evolving society, contemporary Social Work plays an important role in working with complex social problems and disadvantaged groups. Our unique curriculum will help equip you to identify and work with adults and children with care and support needs, including the emergence of evolving social issues, such as unaccompanied asylum seeking children and digital safeguarding.

Serious case reviews and inquiries have emphasised the importance of Social Workers having professional curiosity and imagination. We have moved away from the old fashioned format of 'teaching at' students so that our work with you is dynamic and interactive. We do this by empowering you to take responsibility for your own learning throughout the programme.

The team have spent time reflecting on the challenges facing any student entering Masters level study to ensure they achieve their goals in an academically robust manner. An induction process is scheduled into the initial weeks of classes to look at the additional skills and enhancements required for success at Masters level. It is also important that you recognise the importance of research in the profession and the need to integrate knowledge, application and production of research in their everyday practice.

The team will work with you to help you to deal with the demands a full-time MA programme and manage these demands effectively. There are opportunities for all MA students to get together in discussions with staff on a regular basis, outside scheduled learning sessions. In addition, we are building our research capacity in a number of ways. We hold an annual research conference and academic writing workshops as well as enhancement activities where alumni and other learned speakers come in to talk to you about their experiences in the field or in their research.

Ongoing support and professional preparation is provided through time spent with your tutors both in class and during other formal and informal opportunities. We understand and value the relationship between each student and their personal tutor is an essential element to ensuring your success, and every student is offered tutorials with a named tutor throughout their studies.

Aims of the Programme

The overall aims of the Programme are:

1. To encourage and develop postgraduate students' proficiency to take ownership and lead in their future career and the development of the Social Work profession.

2. To produce graduates who can review, evaluate, and utilise research within their practice and develop their own research creatively for innovative responses to contemporary practice settings.

3. To support students on their learning journey while they develop the skills to face the challenges that impact on professional social work practice in the 21st Century.

4. To ensure that graduates can communicate effectively, flexibly and appropriately in a variety of different digital and physical media in a way that achieves the standards expected by the Social Work profession.

5. To develop the capability of graduates for autonomous professional practice in a changing and

evolving society while continuing to embrace a commitment to social justice.

6. To produce graduates who are equipped with the knowledge, skills and values to enhance their own resilience whilst remaining professional curious and open to different perspectives throughout their careers.

Level Descriptors

Level Descriptors describe in general terms the expected outcomes you will achieve at each level of study as you progress through your programmes. They describe the relative demand, complexity, depth of learning and learner autonomy associated with a particular level of learning and achievement. The University's Level Descriptors are aligned to the national Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) and are a key mechanism for ensuring the academic standards of the University's provision.

At **Level 7 (Master's level),** you will be able to demonstrate that you have the ability:

- To display a systematic understanding of knowledge, and a critical awareness of current problems and/or new insights, much of which is at, or informed by, the forefront of your academic discipline, field of study or area of professional practice.

- Employ advanced subject-specific and cognitive skills to enable decision-making in complex and unpredictable situations.

- Generate new ideas and support the achievement of desired outcomes

- Accept accountability for decision making including the use of supervision

- Analyse complex concepts and professional situations by means of synthesis of personal and work place reflection (Mantell & Scragg, 2019) and data drawn from scholarship and research in the field.

Programme Outcomes – Knowledge and Understanding

The programme provides opportunities for you to develop and demonstrate the following:

After 60 credits of study (PGCert) you will be able to demonstrate:

K1. A critical and comprehensive knowledge of contemporary theory and research in Social Work and an ability to apply this knowledge creatively to the discipline of Social Work.

K2. A critical, systematic and expert understanding of professional, ethical and legal perspectives relating to professional practice in Social Work and an ability to manage these within the context of complex practice situations.

After 120 credits of study (PGDip) you will be able to demonstrate:

K3. A critical and specialist knowledge of factors that influence research, policy and practice within Social Work.

K4. An ability to synthesise issues at national and international level in your chosen field of enquiry.

After 180 credits of study (MA) you will be able to demonstrate:

K5. A critical knowledge of Social Work ethics (Reamer, 2018), values and professional codes and an ability manage their application to complex dilemmas in Social Work practice.

Programme Outcomes – Skills and other Attributes (including Employability Skills)

The programme provides opportunities for you to develop and demonstrate the following:

After 60 credits of study (PGCert) you will be able to demonstrate:

S1. An ability to synthesise a comprehensive and critical understanding of diverse theories and model of intervention in planning and undertaking Social Work interventions.

S2. An ability to make argued conclusions and clearly, concisely, using incomplete and/or contested data and professionally communicate ideas, findings and conclusions in verbal and written communication for a range of audiences in formal and informal situations.

After 120 credits of study (PGDip) you will be able to demonstrate:

S3. An ability to demonstrate professional curiosity and critical thinking in addressing unforeseen, previously unknown or poorly understood social problems in Social Work practice

S4. An ability to demonstrate professional abilities as a future leader in Social Work.

After 180 credits of study (MA) you will be able to demonstrate:

S5. A commitment to continuous professional growth and development including developing skills in working with new technologies.

S6. An ability to complete a coherent, substantial and original piece of empirical research, which critically addresses a unique research question relevant to Social Work practice.

External and Internal Reference Points

The following Subject Benchmark Statements and other external and internal reference points have been used to inform the Programme Outcomes:

QAA - Part A setting and maintaining academic standards

QAA - Subject Benchmark Statement Social Work

Professional Capabilities Framework: British Association of Social Workers

Social Work England Professional Standards

Social Work England Education and Training Standards

Knowledge and Skills Statement for Social Workers in Adult Services: Department of Health

Knowledge and Skills Statement for Approved Child and Family Practitioners: Department of Education

- UoC Equality, diversity and inclusion
- UoC Strategic Plan
- UoC Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy
- UoC Academic Regulations and Academic Procedures and Processes

Graduate Prospects

Following successful completion of the programme, including all the Qualificatory Practice Units, you will be eligible to apply for registration with Social Work England. Once you are accepted onto the Social work England register will be able to use the legally protected title of Social Worker and apply for jobs as a qualified Social Worker. Our Social Work graduates are employed in a range of organisations such as local authorities, charities and the private sector this shows the range of opportunities you will have once you have graduated. The transferrable skills and knowledge you develop during your time at the University of Cumbria will serve you well as you start, and develop, your professional career.

Demand is very high for MA qualified Social Workers both regionally and nationally, and our graduates have been very successful in obtaining jobs with Cumbria County Council's Social Work Academy, Local Authorities throughout England and a range of employers throughout the United Kingdom. The Programme has close relationships with local employers and our diverse range of placements will offer you a valuable opportunity to showcase your skills and explore different employment settings

Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies employed to enable the Programme Outcomes to be Achieved and Demonstrated

The MA Social Work is designed using a set of principles for learning, teaching and assessment. These principles of social justice, person centered practice and empowerment are mirrored by the values that apply to the discipline of Social Work. These principles have also informed the development of each of the modules.

Each module assignment has been designed to be appropriate to the global learning aims and individual learning outcomes.

We use a range of VLE environments and e-portfolios and resources suitable for mobile learning downloadable videos and podcasts. Learning and assessment at the University of Cumbria is accessible and any additional needs are supported well by the tutors and support services.

We pride ourselves on working with people who have lived experience of social work who are involved in seminars as well as the overall admissions and governance processes for the programme in with the expectations of our regulator.

Our approach involves learning and development. The programme is about a range of education and training elements, combined with skills, personal and professional reflection. Whether students are in university or practice placements we encourage everyone to consider how theory translates into meaningful practice, and how practice informs the academic and research base which shapes our work.

Learning, development and assessment complement each other so that students can evidence their successful progression through the levels of the PCF and within their academic journey.

Blended learning is a feature of all modules and is a combination of face-to-face lectures, seminars, workshops and online activities. The online activities supplement and support the in person work.

The MA Social Work seeks to engage with three of the contexts for learning outlined in the University of Cumbria's Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy (2017). Blended learning adds considerable value to the student experience and inclusiveness.

The MA in Social Work seeks to engage with three of the contexts for learning outlined in the University of Cumbria's Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy (2017). The flexibility that a blended approach to learning at this level offers, adds considerable value to the student experience and inclusiveness.

A key feature of your academic journey will include **formative assessment.** Formative assessment is not about marks and grades and involves active feedback from staff and peers in support of personal and professional development.

Summative assessment is graded and linked to module outcomes. Summative assessment allows progression through the programme and also includes feedback and reflection.

The curriculum follows a specific strategy for assessing students to ensure you meet the requirements of Level 7 study as well as SWE requirements. For example, we incorporate assessed presentations into the curriculum, which will assess your own knowledge as well as your ability to articulate thoughts and concepts. Once you have qualified as a Social Worker, being able to successfully work in groups with other professionals will be a crucial element of everyday practice. Similarly, being able to communicate effectively both verbally and in written form is vital in professional social work.

Research is a central aspect of both professional practice and MA study.

Indicative Range of Assessment Methods: The breadth of assessment methods acknowledges that graduate and employability skills are many and varied and so students need opportunities to develop, practice and be assessed on as full a range of skills as possible. An example of the range is as follows: intervention design and evaluation, critical reflection, academic essay, portfolio, presentation and simulation.

Placements: Placements are an integral element of MA Social Work programme and are 70 days in year 1 and 100 days in year 2. All student placements are quality assured in terms of meeting the needs of social work students and meeting health and safety standards. In addition you will be provided with an appropriately qualified and trained Practice Educator. Sometimes the practice educator will be the person who directly supervises you in your placement setting. However, if your on-site supervisor is not a trained Practice Educator, then you will have an additional off-site practice Educator who will assess your progress towards meeting the Social Work Professional Capabilities. You will also have a Link Lecturer from the Social Work programme team who will visit you on placement and help you with any unforeseen difficulties.

References

Dominelli, L. (2018) Anti-racist social work. Fourth edition. Red Globe Press.

Land, R. and Meyer, J. H. F. (2010) 'Threshold concepts and troublesome knowledge: Dynamics of Assessment', in Land, R., Meyer, J.H.F. and Baillie, C., (eds) *Threshold Concepts and Transformational Learning*. Sense Publishers: Rotterdam, pp. 61-79.

Mantell, A. and Scragg, T. (2019) Reflective practice in social work. 5th edition. Learning Matters.

Meyer, J.H., F. and Land, R. (2005) 'Threshold concepts and troublesome knowledge (2): Epistemological considerations and a conceptual framework for teaching and learning'. *Higher Education,* 49(3), pp. 373-388.

Nicol, D. J.& Macfarlane-Dick, D. (2007) 'Formative assessment and self-regulated learning: a model and seven principles of good feedback practice', *Studies in Higher Education*, 31:2, pp.199-218,

Reamer, F. (2018) Social work values and ethics. Fifth edition. Columbia University Press.

Tedam, P. (2021) Anti-Oppressive Social Work Practice. SAGE Publishing.

Student Support

University of Cumbria provides support to our learners that is both responsive and which promotes student success. Our approach to learner support is designed to enable achievement and progression, champion inclusivity and accessibility, prepare you for opportunities beyond study, and promote

independence and resilience, enabling you to reach your potential.

You will be taught by academics and expert practitioners who facilitate learning through structured inquiry. You will also be provided with access to high quality academic resources through physical and digital libraries and will be encouraged to develop skills that enable you to become a critical, reflective, discerning and independent learner and researcher.

We know that every learner is unique and that studying for the MA Social Work can be challenging. The programme team want you to succeed, and you can expect a high level of encouragement from staff as a student at the University of Cumbria.

Induction

The programme team recognise that studying at level 7 requires a different focus and emphasis than at level 6.

Postgraduate study is quite different in that it requires you to engage in a lot of non-formulaic thinking, which, by its very nature is not a tidy nor linear process. As previously discussed, two of the approaches that have informed our curriculum and induction design are the 'Mastersness' project by the QAA as well as Threshold Conceptual Learning. In the first two weeks of the programme you will engage in a project that will enhance your induction into level 7 study. The programme team will encourage you to recognise your strengths and limitations, and to create your own unique academic learning plan. This plan is not assessed, however it will enrich the very start of your level 7 academic study, and you will be asked to reflect on it alongside your Personal Tutor at the end of the induction period as a tool to advance your academic skills and knowledge and make the most of this exciting new learning opportunity.

Personal Tutoring

You will be allocated a Personal Tutor when you embark on your Masters programme. Your Personal Tutor is a member of the programme team who is proactively involved in the delivery of your programme and they will have contact with you throughout your time at the University. Their role is to support your overall learning and development, and you will meet with them for tutorials, reviews and any other meetings as outlined in the Personal Tutor Policy.

Personal Development Planning

Your personal development will be embedded throughout many aspects of your academic journey, furthermore embedded within the programme is a formal Personal Development Planning strategy, with utilises 'PebblePad' software to create your own personal e-portfolio.

Library Services and Academic Skills

The Library home page can be accessed here: https://my.cumbria.ac.uk/Student-Life/Learning.

Module leaders will collaborate with Library Services to ensure that your online reading and resource lists are current and items are available via the library discovery tool OneSearch. In order to maximise access, availability and usefulness, ebooks and electronic journal titles will, in most cases, be prioritised. You can access a wide range of electronic and print content using OneSearch and you can find out more about key texts, databases and journals for your subject by accessing the library's subject resources webpages. Where appropriate, module reading and resource lists will be made available to you electronically on Blackboard using the University's online reading and resource list system.

Each campus library has a dedicated webpage. Check out local information about opening hours, reserving books, using self-service kiosks, printing and photocopying, booking study spaces and more. https://my.cumbria.ac.uk/Student-Life/Learning/Libraries/

An Ask a Librarian service runs from 17:00 - 09:00 weekdays and round the clock on weekends and holidays. This means you can get professional help using about library services, finding information, referencing and searching, even when the library is closed. https://my.cumbria.ac.uk/Student-

The Skills@Cumbria service can help support your academic, library and digital skills and success throughout your programme. It includes a suite of online self-help resources accessible 24/7 via the University's website and Blackboard site.

The Student Enquiry Point is a simple way to contact Library and Skills@Cumbria Services. Additional skills support for students is offered via:

- Workshops
- Appointments
- Webinars
- Learn Well at Cumbria
- Study from Home Webpage
- Digital Capabilities and LinkedIn Learning Pathways

Head Start to Postgraduate Study: This free online pre-entry Master's level course is available free of charge through Blackboard. It provides a useful insight into the academic requirements of study at postgraduate level, including advice from academic tutors and current students, and an opportunity to refresh and develop the library, academic and digital skills for this level. It is recommended to students who are about to start their PG qualification.

The module is accessible via Blackboard on a self-enrol basis, where you receive badges and certificate of completion, or there is a non-certificated open access version available via the Head Start webpage.

Student Support Services

The Student Enquiry Point is a simple way to contact Student Services. Using the Student Enquiry Point tile on the Student Hub you can submit an enquiry to any of the Student Services teams, which includes:

- Careers and Employability
- Chaplaincy for faith and spiritual wellbeing
- Mental Health and Wellbeing
- Digital Skills
- Disability and Specific Learning Difficulty (SpLD)
- International Student Support
- Library
- Money Matters
- Safeguarding
- Skills@Cumbria
- Sports and Fitness Facilities
- University Student Accommodation

Further support and guidance, including EDI and Safeguarding: We are an inclusive community, committed to supporting and learning from each other, find out more about Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI). Depending on the nature of your course, you may well already know about or be learning about safeguarding in a professional context and to find out about the University of Cumbria's safeguarding policy and procedures visit: Safeguarding.

Student Voice

As a student at the University of Cumbria you automatically become a member of the Students' Union.

The Students' Union represents the views and interests of students within the University.

The Students' Union is led by a group of Student Representatives who are elected by students in annual elections. They also support approximately 400 Student Academic Reps linked with each cohort across the entire University. The Students' Union represent the views of their cohort and work with academic staff to continuously develop and improve the experience for all University of Cumbria students. You can find out more about who represents you at www.ucsu.me.

You can email at any time on studentvoice@cumbria.ac.uk.

IT and Technical Support

Technology is an invaluable asset when it comes to studying, so it's important you know how to make the most out of the excellent IT facilities we have available. Our aim is to ensure you can access university electronic resources from anywhere or any device, whether on or off campus. The Student Hub is your one-stop gateway to all University systems, Outlook email, and OneDrive.

Whether you consider yourself a computer expert or you're not confident about your IT skills, we're always around to ensure you get the level of support you need. We have a wealth of information and support available on the IT Services website and have a dedicated IT Service Desk where you can talk to someone by phone or log your question online from anywhere, at any time.

University Cumbria Students' Union (UCSU) Student Support

UCSU offers a free, independent and confidential advice service to all students. They can help with things like academic appeals, extenuating circumstances or if you're considering a formal complaint. UCSU are also on hand to represent you in any formal meetings, for example in malpractice panels or fitness to practice meetings. Appointments are telephone based and can be booked at www.ucsu.me/support.

Programme Curriculum Map					
Academic Level	**Module Code**	**Module Title**	**Credits**	**Module Status***	**Programme Outcomes achieved**
7	HSWG7023	Professional Knowledge and Skills for Social Work	20	Core	K1; K3 S1; S2
7	HSWG7024	Contemporary Issues in Social Work	20	Core	K1; K3 S1; S2
7	HSWG7029	Critical Applications in Statutory Social Work Practice	20	Core	K1; K2; K3; K4; S1; S2; S3; S4;
7	HSWG7025	Readiness for Direct Practice	20	Core	PCF 1-9
7	HSWG7030	Safeguarding and Ethics in Applied Social Work Practice	20	Core	K1; K2; K3; S1;S2; S3;
7	HSWG7028	Critically Evaluating Interventions with Diverse Populations	20	Core	K1; K2; S1;S2; S3;
7	HSWG9007	1st Placement (70 Days)	Qualificatory	Core	K1;K2; K3; K4; S1;S2; S3; S4;
7	HSWG7026	Using Research Evidence to Enhance Social Work	20	Core	K1; K3 S1; S2
7	HSWG7031	Dissertation: Research Production, Analysis and Dissemination	20	Core	K1; K2; K3; K4; K5 S1; S2; S3; S4; S5; S6
7	HSWG7027	Resilience, Leadership and Healthy Social	20	Core	K1; K2; K4; K5

		Work Careers			S1; S2; S3; S4; S5; S6
7	HSWG9008	Final Placement (100 Days)	Qualificatory	Core	K1; K2; K3;K4; K5 S1; S2; S3; S4; S5; S6

Notes

This programme operates in accordance with the University's Academic Regulations and Academic Procedures and Processes as well as the requirements of Social Work England.

These requirements reflect a progression necessary to show successful progress through the different levels of professional development linked to the different levels the Professional Capabilities Framework.

Pre-Requisites

- The module HSWG7025 '**Readiness for Direct Practice'** must be passed before students can undertake the MA Social Work **First Placement** module HSWG9007. **This pass is confirmed at the Spring module board before the beginning of first placement in late March.**

- HSWG9007 MA **First Placement** must be passed before students can progress to taking the **Final Placement** module HSWG9008.

Reassessment and Progression

- All modules must be passed at 50% which is the University pass mark for post graduate modules. Some modules have one summative assessment but where there are two assessments both elements must be passed at 50%. Failure in one element will require resubmission of that failed element only; however, the module will only receive the maximum capped mark of 50%.

- Students who do not successfully pass the placement modules at the first attempt may be offered one reassessment opportunity depending on the circumstances of the end of the unsuccessful placement.

Award Requirements

- To achieve the target award of MA Social Work all modules and qualificatory practice units must be completed and successfully passed. Failed modules are not eligible for compensation/condonement. Should a module or qualificatory practice unit be failed once all reassessment opportunities have been exhausted, the student must leave the programme with an exit award. Exit awards do not confer eligibility to apply for registration with the Health and Care Professions Council.

- Students who successfully complete all modules (180 M level credits) **plus** both qualificatory practice units will be awarded the MA Social Work. This award confers eligibility to apply for registration with SWE.

- Students who successfully complete all modules (120 M level credits) **plus** both qualificatory practice units, **with the exception of HSWG7026 and HSWG7031**, will be awarded the PgD Social Work. This award confers eligibility to apply for registration with SWE.

- Students who successfully complete all modules (180 M level credits) but do not successfully complete both qualificatory practice units will be awarded the MA Social Care Studies. This award does **NOT** confer eligibility to apply for registration with SWE.

- Students who successfully complete 120 credits at M level will be awarded the PgD Social Care Studies. This award does **NOT** confer eligibility to apply for registration with SWE.

- Students who successfully complete 60 credits at M level will be awarded the PgC Social Care Studies. This award does **NOT** confer eligibility to apply for registration with SWE.

- A failed student will not be permitted to re-register on the same (MA) Social Work programme. Refer also to the Academic Regulations

* **Key to Module Statuses**	
Core Modules	Must be taken and must be successfully passed
Qualificatory Units	Non-credit bearing pass/fail components that are used to satisfy relevant professional, statutory or regulatory body professional requirements that are associated with the programme

Programme Delivery Structure: Full Time				
Module Code	**Module Title**	**Delivery Pattern** **Sept – Dec** **Jan – June**	**Method(s) of Assessment**	**Approximate Assessment Deadline**
HSWG7023	Professional Knowledge and Skills for Social Work	Sept – Dec (Year 1)	Written reflection (50%) Oral assessment (50%)	November Year 1 December Year 1
HSWG7024	Critical Analysis of Contemporary Issues in Social Work	Sept- Dec (Year 1)	Academic Poster (50%) Poster presentation (50%)	November Year 1 December Year 1
HSWG7029	Critical Applications in Statutory Social Work Practice	Sept - Dec (Year 1)	Set Exercise (50%) Written Assignment (50%)	Mid Semester 1 End Semester 1
HSWG7025	Readiness for Direct Practice	January (Year 1)	Simulation Scenario (50%) Presentation/Discussion (50%)	January (Year 1)
HSWG7030	Safeguarding and Ethics in Applied Social Work Practice	Jan - March (Year 1)	Oral Assessment/presentation (50%) Report (50%)	Mid Semester 2 End Semester 2
HSWG7028	Critically Evaluating Interventions with Diverse Populations	Jan – March (Year 1)	Written assignment (50%) Oral assessment/presentation (50%)	End Semester 2 End Semester 2
HSWG9007	1st Placement (70 Days)	Jan - May (Year 1)	Portfolio (Pass/Fail)	End Semester 2E
HSWG7026	Using Research Evidence to Enhance Social Work	Sept – Dec (Year 2)	Oral assessment/presentation (30%) Written Assignment (70%)	End Semester 1 End Semester 2

HSWG7031	Dissertation: Research Production, Analysis and Dissemination	Year long Sept – June (Year 2)	Dissertation (70%)	End Semester 2E
			Project Work (30%)	End Semester 2E
HSWG7027	Resilience, Leadership and Healthy Social Work Careers	Sept - Dec (Year 2)	Oral assessment/presentation (70%)	Mid Semester 2
			Project Work (30%)	End Semester 2
HSWG9008	Final Placement (100 Days)	Jan - May (Year 2)	Portfolio (Pass/Fail)	End Semester 2E

Students exiting with 60 credits will be awarded a PGCert in Social Care Studies

Students exiting with 120 credits without the QPUs will be awarded a PGDip in Social Care Studies

Students exiting with 120 credits including both QPUS but without modules HSWG7026 and HSWG7031 will be awarded a PGDip in Social Work*

Students exiting with 180 credits without the QPUs will be awarded an MA in Social Care Studies

Students exiting with 180 including both QPUs will be awarded an MA in Social Work*

Modules can be undertaken in any order within the time limits for registration as laid down by the appropriate Social Work Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Body (PSRB) & the University of Cumbria (UoC)

Only these two awards will confer eligibility to apply for registration with Social Work England

Methods for Evaluating and Improving the Quality and Standards of Learning	
Mechanisms used for the Review and Evaluation of the Curriculum and Learning, Teaching and Assessment Methods	• Module Evaluation • Programme Validation and Periodic Review • Annual Monitoring • Peer Review of Teaching • Weekly meet up with all students during Autumn semester. • External Examiner Reports • Student Success and Quality Assurance Committee • Use of Mentimeter and similar 'apps' to gain ongoing feedback. • Meetings on at least an annual basis with stakeholders & Practice Educators
Mechanisms used for gaining and responding to feedback on the quality of teaching and the learning experience – gained from: Students, graduates, employers, placement and work-based learning providers, other stakeholders, etc.	• Student Staff Forum • Module Evaluation Forms • Programme Evaluation, DLHE, PTES • Module/Programme/Personal tutorials • Meetings with External Examiners • Use of Mentimeter and similar 'apps' to gain ongoing feedback. • Meetings on an annual basis with stakeholders & Practice Educators • Placement Quality Student Evaluation

Date of Programme Specification Production:	January 2019
Date Programme Specification was last updated:	October 2024
For further information about this programme, refer to the programme page on the University website	